

In response to the Official Action mailed December 9, 2002 please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A carbonaceous hollow nanotube comprising:
a carbon material and having an inner diameter less than or equal to 5nm;
and an outer diameter wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner
diameter is equal to or less than 20nm;
said carbon material comprising hydrogen atoms, and carbon atoms and at
least one transition metal atom; wherein said nanotube is annular and tube-shaped.

2. (previously amended) The carbonaceous nanotube according to claim
1, wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner diameter is equal to or less
than 10nm.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The carbonaceous nanotube according to claim
3 1, wherein said transition metal atom is iron.

5. (currently amended) A fiber aggregate, comprising: carbonaceous

hollow nanotubes comprising a carbon material and having an inner diameter of less than or equal to 5nm; and an outer diameter wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner diameter is equal to or less than 20nm;

said carbon material comprising hydrogen atoms, and carbon atoms and at least one transition metal atom;

said carbonaceous nanotubes comprising at least 70 weight % of said fiber aggregate;

said hydrogen atoms comprising 0.1 to 1 weight % of said fiber aggregate; and

said carbon atoms comprising at least 98.5 weight % of said fiber aggregate; wherein said nanotubes are annular and tube-shaped.

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6. (previously amended) The fiber aggregate according to claim 5, wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner diameter is equal to or less than 10nm.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The fiber aggregate according to claim 7 5, wherein said transition metal is iron.

9. (currently amended) The fiber aggregate according to claim 7 5,

wherein said at least one transition metal atom comprises 0.005 to 1 weight % of said aggregate.

10 - 12. (withdrawn)

13. (new) The carbonaceous hollow nanotube according to claim 1, wherein said nanotubes comprises a plurality of disordered, annular, tube-shaped layers.

14. (new) The carbonaceous nanotube according to claim 13 wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner diameter is equal to or less than 10nm.

15. (new) The carbonaceous nanotube according to claim 13 wherein said transition metal is iron.

16. (new) The fiber aggregate according to claim 5 wherein said nanotubes comprises a plurality of disordered, annular, tube-shaped layers.

17. (new) The fiber aggregate according to claim 16 further wherein the difference between said outer diameter and said inner diameter is equal to or less than 10nm.

18. (new) The fiber aggregate according to claim 16 wherein said transition metal is iron.

19. (new) The fiber aggregate according to claim 16 wherein said transition metal comprises 0.005 to 1 weight % of said aggregate.

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